

Ben understands that investing in our children's education is the most important thing we can do to ensure a sustainable future for our country. Today's classrooms should provide a positive learning environment where students are encouraged to challenge themselves and achieve their goals. Ben believes that no child should be overlooked, no matter what his or her background or family income level may be. All children should have an equal opportunity to obtain a high-quality education. This is why Ben voted to pass the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan, which provides funding for schools that will help protect teacher jobs, maintain programs for children with disabilities, and help students get the education they need to prepare themselves for the jobs of the future.

High school dropout rates must be reduced, and Ben is committed to supporting mentorship, tutoring and after-school programs in all of our schools. Ben will fight to support funding for educational programs for our most underserved and at-risk youth. Schools need to reach out to parents and members of the community to engage them in their children's education and make sure that no students are left behind.

Schools must recruit and train qualified teachers, and make sure that teachers are fairly compensated for their hard work. Ben is committed to supporting a comprehensive curriculum in our schools that will prepare students to succeed in a competitive global economy. Investing in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education will be an integral part of ensuring that our students are college-bound. Students should not be afraid of college because of costs, and Ben will work towards making college affordable and accessible to every student.